

COMPUTING DEVICE HAVING A LOW POWER SECONDARY PROCESSOR COUPLED TO A KEYBOARD CONTROLLER

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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A portable computing device includes a keyboard controller that receives keystroke information as well as inputs from a graphical pointing device and conveys these to a main central processing unit. The keyboard controller additionally communicates with a battery module through a second interface in order to monitor and control the charging of the module. A low power secondary processor is interfaced to the keyboard controller through the second interface in order to receive keystroke information as well as information from the graphical pointing device. When the keyboard controller is instructed to do so, keystroke and graphical pointing information are conveyed exclusively to the secondary processor, thereby enabling the portable computing device to perform some functions without requiring the main central processing unit to be operational and thus operate in a low power mode.